
Subject: Re: [PATCH (resubmit)][BRIDGE] Properly dereference the
br_should_route_hook

Posted by [Herbert Xu](#) on Thu, 29 Nov 2007 13:04:20 GMT

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On Tue, Nov 27, 2007 at 07:21:08PM +0300, Pavel Emelyanov wrote:

> This hook is protected with the RCU, so simple
>
> if (br_should_route_hook)
> br_should_route_hook(...)
>
> is not enough on some architectures.
>
> Use the rcu_dereference/rcu_assign_pointer in this case.
>
> Fixed Stephen's comment concerning using the typeof().
>
> Signed-off-by: Pavel Emelyanov <xemul@openvz.org>

Applied to net-2.6. Thanks Pavel!

```
> static void __exit ebtable_broute_fini(void)
> {
> - br_should_route_hook = NULL;
> + rcu_assign_pointer(br_should_route_hook, NULL);
```

Just for the record, rcu_assign_pointer is never necessary when you're assigning NULL. The reason is that rcu_assign_pointer serves as a barrier between the initialisation of the content of what you're assigning and the actual assignment. Since NULL does not need to be initialised you don't need the barrier :)

Hmm, perhaps we could even build this logic into rcu_assign_pointer.

Then again, who still uses an Alpha? Mine died years ago :)

Cheers,

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